

News Release

PRESS OFFICE

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SBA's Georgia District Office announces the 2017 National Small Business Week in Georgia award winners

ATLANTA – Director <u>Terri Denison</u>, the head of the <u>U.S. Small Business Administration</u>'s <u>Georgia District Office</u> announces the winners of the 2017 National Small Business Week awards for Georgia.

"These awards aren't just about recognizing business success, they also recognize the efforts of small business advocates that empower entrepreneurs," Denison said. "We believe that small businesses are the economic engine driving our economy and people like these award winners are the spark plugs powering that engine."

The winners will be honored at a luncheon, hosted by the Georgia Lenders Quality Circle, scheduled for **May 2**, at <u>Villa Christina</u> in Atlanta. To learn more about National Small Business Week in Georgia go to https://www.sba.gov/ga

The 2017 awardees are:

Young Entrepreneur of the Year

William Cross III, CEO Vasocorp Inc. Waco, Georgia

Financial Services Champion

Sherry Kinard, vice president Brand Bank Atlanta, Georgia

Small Business Media Advocate

Dana Barrett Dana Barrett Radio Show Atlanta, Georgia

LGBT Business Advocate

Suzanne Baugh, CEO Q&A Entertainment Inc. East Point, Georgia

Minority Small Business Champion

Shawn Bromell, president Pro Cutters Lawnscapes Inc. Conyers, Georgia

Family-Owned Business

Ray Crosby, CEO Week's Honey Farm Omega, Georgia

Veteran Small Business Champion

Jeremy Horstman, director Georgia Southern University Veterans Business Outreach Center Statesboro, Georgia

Women Business Champion

Lisa Winton, president Winton Machine Co. Lawrenceville, Georgia

Home-based Business Champion

James Foster, president Georgia Home-based Business Chamber of Commerce Stockbridge, Georgia

Since 1963, the president has issued a proclamation calling for the first week in May to be celebrated as National Small Business Week. There are national events planned in Washington, D.C., New York City, Indianapolis, Dallas and Fresno, Calif., commemorating this special time.

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About the Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) was created in 1953 and since January 13, 2012 has served as a Cabinet-level agency of the federal government to aid, counsel, assist and protect the interests of small business concerns, to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our nation. The SBA helps Americans start, build and grow businesses. Through an extensive network of field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations, the SBA delivers its services to people throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam. www.sba.gov